

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. Method of adjusting globally performance parameters of a power driven wheelchair for a plurality of drive programs thereof, said method comprising the steps of:
 - programming a microcontroller with a plurality of drive programs for operating said wheelchair, each drive program including a multiplicity of adjustable performance parameters;
 - adjusting a selected performance parameter of said multiplicity to a desired result;
 - setting a global flag to a desired status;
 - storing said desired result of said selected performance parameter solely in memory allocated to a selected drive program of said plurality when said global flag is set to a first status; and
 - storing said desired result of said selected performance parameter globally in memory allocated to each of said drive programs of said plurality when said global flag is set to a second status.
2. The method of claim 1 including the step of grouping performance parameters of the multiplicity into first and second groups; wherein the desired results of performance parameters of said first group may be stored only in memory allocated to a selected drive program independent of the status of the global flag; and wherein the desired results of performance parameters of said second group may be stored in memory allocated to the drive programs dependent of the status of the global flag.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of adjusting is performed through an interactive programmer coupled to the microcontroller.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the step of setting the global flag includes the steps of:
 - coupling the interactive programmer unit to the microcontroller;
 - programming the microcontroller to interact with the programmer unit to display menu images on an image screen; and
 - selecting a desired menu image for display on the image screen of the programmer unit from which to set the global flag to the desired status.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the steps of storing include:
after adjusting the selected performance parameter, displaying a drive menu image on the screen of the programmer from which to select a drive program for storage of the desired result; and
selecting from the drive menu image the drive program in which allocated memory the desired result is to be stored.
6. The method of claim 5 including the step of after adjusting the selected performance parameter, initiating a save task through the programmer unit to display the drive menu image.
7. The method of claim 5 including the step of after selecting the drive program, performing the steps of storing based on the status of the global flag.
8. The method of claim 5 including the step of after selecting the drive program, aborting the steps of storing by initiating an abort task.
9. The method of claim 8 including the step of after aborting the steps of storing, permitting the selected performance parameter to be re-adjusted.
10. The method of claim 4 including the step of selecting another menu image for display on the image screen of the programmer unit from which to select the performance parameter for adjustment.
11. Method of adjusting globally performance parameters of a power driven wheelchair for a plurality of drive programs thereof, said method comprising the steps of:
programming a microcontroller with a plurality of drive programs for operating said wheelchair, each drive program including a multiplicity of adjustable performance parameters;
coupling an interactive programmer unit to the microcontroller;
allocating memory registers of a memory to each of the plurality of drive programs for storage of the performance parameters associated therewith;

adjusting a selected performance parameter of said multiplicity to a desired result through the interactive programmer unit;

setting a global flag to a desired status through the interactive programmer unit;

storing said desired result of said selected performance parameter solely in the memory allocated to a selected drive program of said plurality when said global flag is set to a first status; and

storing said desired result of said selected performance parameter globally in the memory allocated to each of said drive programs of said plurality when said global flag is set to a second status.

12. The method of claim 11 including the step of grouping performance parameters of the multiplicity into first and second groups; wherein the desired results of performance parameters of said first group may be stored only in the memory allocated to the selected drive program independent of the status of the global flag; and wherein the desired results of performance parameters of said second group may be stored in the memory allocated to the drive programs dependent of the status of the global flag.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of allocating includes allocating memory registers of a non-volatile memory to each of the plurality of drive programs for storage of the performance parameters associated therewith.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of setting the global flag includes the steps of:

programming the microcontroller to interact with the programmer unit to display menu images on an image screen; and

selecting a desired menu image for display on the image screen of the programmer unit from which to set the global flag to the desired status.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the steps of storing include:

after adjusting the selected performance parameter, displaying a drive menu image on the screen of the programmer from which to select a drive program for storage of the desired result; and

selecting from the drive menu image the drive program in which allocated memory the desired result is to be stored.

16. The method of claim 15 including the step of after adjusting the selected performance parameter, initiating a save task through the programmer unit to display the drive menu image.

17. The method of claim 15 including the step of after selecting the drive program, performing the steps of storing based on the status of the global flag.

18. The method of claim 15 including the step of after selecting the drive program, aborting the steps of storing by initiating an abort task.

19. The method of claim 18 including the step of after aborting the steps of storing, permitting the selected performance parameter to be re-adjusted.

20. The method of claim 14 including the step of selecting another menu image for display on the image screen of the programmer unit from which to select the performance parameter for adjustment.